

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-05

CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 OES-03

FEAE-00 SAM-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 SP-02 /071 W

----- 086976

O R 271614Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1061

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

ERDA GERMANTOWN

NRC BETHESDA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 10448

E. C. BRUSSELS FOR RUBIN, ERDA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, GW, EEC

SUBJECT: EXPORT LICENSES FORNUCLEAR MATERIALS

REF: A. EC BRUSSELS 05643, B. BONN 08860

1. SUMMARY. FRG TECHNOLOGY MINISTRY CALLED IN EMBASSY'S COUNSELOR FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL AFFAIRS AND MADE FORCEFUL PROTEST AGAINST CONTINUED DELAY IN ISSUANCE OF EXPORT LICENSE FOR URGENTLY NEEDED HIGHLY-ENRICHED URANIUM WHICH IS NOW BEGINNING TO HAVE SERIOUS ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES. FURTHERMORE, TECHMIN OFFICIALS EMPHATICALLY REJECTED CURRENT ERDA REQUEST FOR PAYMENT FOR ENRICHED URANIUM WHICH NOT RPT NOT RECEIVED BECAUSE NRC EXPORT LICENSE NOT RPT NOT GRANTED. END SUMMARY.

2. DR. KREWER, CHIEF, NUCLEAR FUEL CYCLE OFFICE, FRG MINISTRY FOR RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY INVITED EMBASSY S&T COUNSELOR TO CALL FOR DISCUSSION OF
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PROBLEMS IN SUPPLY OF HIGHLY-ENRICHED URANIUM (HEU).

KREWER AND HIS COLLEAGUES REVIEWED IN FORCEFUL TERMS THE CONSEQUENCES OF CONTINUED DELAY IN ORANTING EXPORT LICENSE FOR URGENTLY NEEDED HEU. TECHMIN OFFICIALS NOTED THAT THEY HAVE BEEN PATIENT IN VIEW OF EFFORTS BY EMBASSY AND USG REPS TO EXPLAIN SITUATION. HOWEVER, MID-JUNE DEADLINE HAS PASSED WITHOUT ACTION. FURTHERMORE, NUKEM HAS BEEN BILLED FOR HEU NOT YET LICENSED FOR EXPORT (REF A).

3. THIS LATTER REQUEST IS "IMPOSSIBLE AND COMPLETELY UNACCEPTABLE PRACTICE" WHICH WILL BE REFUSED FOR THIS CASE AND FOR ANY SIMILAR SHIPMENTS FOR WHICH EXPORT LICENSES HAVE NOT BEEN GRANTED IN DUE TIME. THE EURATOM SUPPLY AGENCY WILL ALSO NOT PAY INTEREST CHARGES FOR LATE PAYMENTS OF SUCH ACCOUNTS NOR WILL IT CONCLUDE STORAGE CONTRACTS WHICH MIGHT IMPLY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF ERDA'S RIGHT TO DEMAND ACCEPTANCE OF DELIVERY EVEN THOUGH NRC HAD NOT LICENSED EXPORT.

4. NUKEM NOW FINDS ITSELF IN DIFFICULT ECONOMIC POSITION WITH RESPECT TO BOTH ITS OWN EMPLOYEES AND ITS FOREIGN CUSTOMERS. IT WAS POSSIBLE TO REMAIN IN PRODUCTION THIS LONG ONLY BY PROCESSING UNECONOMICALLY SMALL QUANTITIES OF MATERIALS ON HAND. THIS IS NO LONGER POSSIBLE. IT WILL NOW BECOME NECESSARY TO SEND EMPLOYEES ON ENFORCED VACATIONS AND -- AFTER THE COMPLETION OF THE VACATION -- TO FIRE THEM. THIS LATTER STEP WILL BECOME NECESSARY BEGINNING AT THE END OF JULY. BY AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 1975, OPERATORS MUST BEGIN TO SHUT DOWN SEVERAL REACTORS (GRENOBLE HFR, PETTEN, CANADIAN "ONTARIO HYDRO", STUDVIK AND DELFT) BECAUSE FUEL RELOADS ARE NOT AVAILABLE.

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1062

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

ERDA GERMANTOWN

NRC BETHESDA

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5. IN MAKING THIS BLUNTLY WORDED DEMARCHE, TECHMIN REPS DREW ON TEXT OF JUNE 25 TELEX FROM EURATOM SUPPLY AGENCY TO HEIDENREICH, EURATOM WASHINGTON REPRESENTATIVE. EMBOFF WAS PERMITTED READ THIS CABLE. HEIDENREICH'S EFFORTS IN WASHINGTON ARE CHARACTERIZED AS "COMPLETELY UNSATISFACTORY." SUPPLY AGENCY AND NUKEM REJECT ALLEGATION THAT "PRACTICALLY NOTHING CAN BE DONE BECAUSE SOME OFFICIAL IN OAK RIDGE MAILED AN INVOICE, AND NOTE THAT USG IS "FOR INTERNAL REASONS NOT ABLE TO WORK EFFICIENTLY." HEIDENREICH IS INSTRUCTED TO MAKE POSITION ABSOLUTELY CLEAR TO US AUTHORITIES BECAUSE "TOP LEVEL ACTION" WILL BE TAKEN IF PROBLEM NOT SOLVED WITHIN FEW DAYS.

6. HEIDENREICH WAS ALSO INFORMED THAT EMBASSY S&T COUNSELOR WAS TO BE CALLED IN, THAT SENIOR ERDA REP IN BRUSSELS WOULD BE FORCEFULLY BRIEFED AND THAT FRG EMBASSY IN WASHINTON WOULD SUPPORT HIS EFFORTS.

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7. EMBASSY COMMENT: COMPARE PARA 4, EC BRUSSELS 04749 AND REF B. BLUNT AND FORCEFUL LANGUAGE CONTRASTS STRONGLY WITH TECHMIN OFFICIALS' BEHAVIOR ON OTHER OCCASIONS. WE RECOMMEND THAT THIS DEMARCHE BE GIVEN URGENT ATTENTION.
HILLENBRAND

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